

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Previously Presented) A ground system for an engine mounted in a vehicle body, comprising a ground wire having two ends, the ground wire being electrically connected by one of said ends thereof to a negative electrode terminal of a battery, intermediate positions on the ground wire being electrically connected to ground points of the engine and the other end of said ground wire being grounded to the vehicle body, the ground points of the engine comprising a ground point on a cylinder head of said engine.

2. (Previously Presented) A ground system according to claim 1, wherein the ground points of said engine further comprise a clamping member for an intake manifold for clamping the intake manifold to the cylinder head.

3. (Previously Presented) A ground system according to claim 2, wherein the ground points of said engine further comprise a cover of the cylinder head.

4. (Previously Presented) A ground system according to claim 3, wherein the ground points of said engine further comprise a throttle body.

5. (Previously Presented) The engine ground system according to any of claims 2 through 4, wherein spark means provided in said engine has a direct ignition coil of an internal igniter type accommodated in a plug cap, a ground wire for the plug cap, one end of the plug cap ground wire being electrically connected to the plug cap and the other end of the plug cap ground wire being electrically connected to said clamping member for an intake manifold.

6. (Previously Presented) The engine ground system according to claim 5, wherein one end of said plug cap of said ground wire is electrically connected to a clamping member for clamping said plug cap to said cylinder head.

7. (Previously Presented) The engine ground system according to any of claims 1 through 4, wherein the negative electrode terminal of said battery to which the other end portion of said ground wire is electrically connected is grounded to said vehicle body via another ground wire different from said ground wire.

8. (Currently Amended) The engine ground system according to claim 5 ~~any of claims 1 through 4~~, wherein said ground wire and said ground wire for a plug cap each have a four-layer structure comprising a core wire comprised of bundled twisted wires formed by twisting fine copper wires, an inner coating comprising a synthetic resin material coated on an outer periphery of the core wire, a wire mesh comprising

F-8471

an electrically conductive material and covering an outer periphery of said coating material, and an outer coating comprising a synthetic resin material on an outer periphery of said wire mesh.

9. (New) The engine ground system according to claim 6, wherein said ground wire and said ground wire for a plug cap each have a four-layer structure comprising a core wire comprised of bundled twisted wires formed by twisting fine copper wires, an inner coating comprising a synthetic resin material coated on an outer periphery of the core wire, a wire mesh comprising an electrically conductive material and covering an outer periphery of said coating material, and an outer coating comprising a synthetic resin material on an outer periphery of said wire mesh.